

Poor performance of electricity sector

1139. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the electricity sector has performed well below its target during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the performance of this sector during the last three years; and

(d) how Government plan to improve its performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) While the capacity addition target for the Ninth Five Year Plan was 40245.2 MW, the likely capacity addition will be around 19000 MW. Some of the major reasons for non achievement of the target are as follows:

- (i) Delayed financial closures of private sector projects due to non-availability of escrow.
- (ii) Paucity of funds in State Public Sector Projects.
- (iii) Delay in land acquisition.
- (iv) Delay in investment decision.
- (v) R&R problems.
- (vi) Law and order problems.
- (vii) Contractual problems.
- (viii) Inter-State disputes in respect of hydro projects.

In addition to the Ninth Plan target, the targets for capacity addition for individual years are reassessed based on the progress of on-going projects. The individual targets for capacity addition for last three years alongwith their achievement were as follows:

Year	Target (In MW)	Achievement (In MW)	% Achievement
1998-99	3299.30	4242.00	128.57
1999-2000	4685.00	4532.50	96.74
2000-01	4000.00	3898.97	97.67

(d) For the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Government has initiated an intensive monitoring process through the Empowered Committee which is chaired by Secretary (Power). Apart from monitoring, the Government provides full budgetary support for all on-going hydro projects. The Government of India has also addressed letters to all the States requesting them to enhance their outlays for the power sector so that capacity addition targets are met. The thrust given on reforms is also expected to give positive results within the next two to three years which would lead to rationalization of tariffs, lowering or T&D losses etc. This would encourage the private sector to bring in further investments for capacity addition.

Technique to improve power distribution system in selected districts

†1140. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a scheme to bring improvement in the Technique of power distribution system, in selected districts with a view to improve the power distribution system in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of districts which have been included in the first stage of the above scheme; and

(c) by when power distribution system is to be improved in these districts alongwith the assessment about the percentage of power saving after this improvement?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.